



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CANCER SCREENING AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS: As many as 600,000 individuals in the U.S. and approximately 17,280 Georgians will lose their lives to cancer in 2017, according to estimates by the American Cancer Society; and
- WHEREAS: According to the National Cancer Institute, nearly 210,000 deaths in the U.S. could be prevented by early and appropriate cancer screenings; and
- WHEREAS: From 1991–2014, the rate of cancer–related deaths decreased by 25 percent due to reductions in smoking and advances in early detection and treatment; and
- WHEREAS: According to the American Cancer Society, the five–year relative survival rates for cancers detected at the local stage are approximately 55 percent of lung cancers, 90 percent of colon and rectum cancers, 91 percent of cervical cancers, 99 percent of breast cancers, and 98 percent of skin cancers. Many of these cancers may be preventable, and early detection and treatment are critical, as symptoms are not always present and a diagnosis may even occur in those with no family history of the disease; and
- WHEREAS: Specific cancers may disproportionately affect different populations. Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among African–American females, African–American males are twice as likely to develop prostate cancer as white males, Alaska Natives are twice as likely to develop colorectal cancer, and cervical cancer is more prevalent among Hispanic and African–American women. Further, two out of three people diagnosed with lung cancer are older than 64, and melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, is among the most common cancers in young adults; and
- WHEREAS: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, screening rates for many types of cancer in recommended populations remain substantially below Healthy People 2020 targets; and
- WHEREAS: During Cancer Screening Awareness Week, citizens are encouraged to discuss their individual risk factors of cancer with their health care providers in order to better understand the benefits of timely cancer screenings; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim December 3–9, 2017, as CANCER SCREENING AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 20th day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF